

Communicable Disease Policy

It is the policy of the district to maintain appropriate health standards for the school environment, to promote the good health of students and staff, and to educate students, staff and parents in disease preventions methods and health practices to reduce and/or prevent infection.

District staff will follow standard procedures while working to prevent the spread of communicable disease as outlined by the state department of health, Center for Disease Control, OSHA, and local health department.

Students who are suspected of having a communicable disease that could be detrimental to their health, staff or peers are sent home. Staff will recommend an evaluation, diagnosis and treatment by a licensed medical practitioner at the expense of the student's parents/guardians based on symptoms presented.

Students who have a confirmed communicable disease that poses a risk to the health and safety of other students and staff are excluded from school until they are no longer infectious. Duration of the exclusion and criteria for return to school is based on the disease process as directed to the school by the local health department officer.

Only those persons with direct responsibility for the care of a student, or for determining an appropriate education plan for an excluded student, will be informed of a student's communicable disease status. The local health department will notify parents and/or guardians of students who might have been exposed to a communicable disease without revealing the identity of the infected person(s). Written notification includes the dates of potential exposure, symptoms of the disease, action to take for onset of symptoms, methods of prevention and disease fact sheet from the CDC.

Immunizing students against infectious diseases assists in controlling the spread of communicable diseases. It is the policy of the district to enforce all state immunization requirements in accordance with the Division of Public Health and Chapter HFS 144 Immunization of Students. Exclusion of students who are not adequately immunized is at the discretion of the local health officer, district superintendent and district medical director based on the disease and incubation period.

An alternate educational plan will be implemented for students who are excluded from attending school for an extended period of time.

Policy Approved:
Policy Revised:
KAG/ems

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